

COME TO THE LANCASTER FAIR NOVEMBER 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th and 25th, 1916



FAIR WEEK BARGAINS



SEE THE "BLUE RIBBON" EXHIBIT AT OUR STORE

At Fair time, when the community is exhibiting its best examples of industry and skill ---prize-winning fruit, vegetables, grains, etc.---it's an especially good time for us to show our Fall Clothes, Stock Suits, Florsheim Shoes, Overcoats, Shirts, Ties, Etc.

Doesn't make any difference whether you come in to buy or not, we'll be glad to see you; we're as anxious to help you with bundles or information as we are to sell.

A. B. FERGUSON & SON

"THE FASHION CENTER FOR MEN"

WEEVIL WILL INVADE ALL SOUTH CAROLINA

Experts Feel Sure That Whole of State Will
Be Affected, Lower Part Most Disastrously ---
Case of Louisiana One to Be Guided By.

(By Joe Sparks in Columbia State.)

There are thousands of farmers and merchants in South Carolina who do not believe that the Mexican boll weevil will ever invade this State. They are hoping against hope that this State will not be forced to pay the price that all other States of the cotton belt have paid. It is practically certain that the weevil will cross the Savannah river before the end of the present season and he will most certainly make his appearance in Beaufort, Jasper, Hampton, Barnwell and Aiken counties during 1917. This is the testimony and the opinion of the experts who have been studying the progress of the pest for nearly a quarter of a century.

Today there is a great movement throughout the country in favor of national preparedness. There should be a great movement in this State in favor of preparedness to meet the disaster which is certain to follow the arrival of the boll weevil.

Normally—South Carolina produces about 1,500,000 bales of cotton. The opinion of practically all the experts is that this production will be cut to from 600,000 to 700,000 bales during the first several years of infestation.

When it is remembered that South Carolina is annually sending away about \$100,000,000 a year for food for man and beast, the result of the visit of the weevil will be appalling. The campaign should begin this fall. The farmers should begin to cut down on expense and every dollar possible should be saved.

Doesn't Draw Line There.

Will the boll weevil invade the Piedmont section of South Carolina? There are many farmers and business men who scout the idea. There are many who do not believe that the damage by the weevil will be heavy above the 34th parallel.

It is a great mistake to assume that weevil damage depends on lati-

tude. Latitude means nothing but the distance from the equator and bodies of water, mountains and other factors may and do cause regions on the same parallel to show radically different climatic conditions. It is the climatic conditions and not the latitude which affects the boll weevil. The most important climatic conditions which operate against the weevil are winter temperatures and summer rainfall. Any one who cares to look into the matter can obtain charts from the weather bureau which show lines giving these factors crossing parallel of latitude, sometimes almost at right angles. For instance, a line drawn through northern Louisiana, indicating an absolute minimum temperature, extends more or less along the parallel of latitude across the State of Mississippi and Alabama. In Georgia, however, the line turns sharply to the north and extends in a northeasterly direction entirely across the State of South Carolina. This means that the winter in Columbia, approximately on the 34th parallel, is for all practical purposes the same as that in northern Louisiana at a latitude of about 32 degrees. In other words any region in South Carolina must not be compared with a region of the same latitude in Arkansas, but with the region about two degrees to the south in Louisiana. The facts concerning Louisiana and boll weevil destruction have already been presented. There is no reason to believe that conditions will be different in South Carolina. The same is true of lines showing summer rainfall. These and other important factors bearing on the boll weevil give a clear forecast of what aspects the problem will assume in South Carolina. As a matter of fact the only on the Atlantic coast which could be compared with the latitude of Little Rock, Ark., is the extreme northern North Carolina and southern Virginia.

In the Three Zones.

To repeat, careful studies of the boll weevil which have been conducted for many years leave no doubt whatever that it will finally reach all parts of South Carolina. Nevertheless the problem will vary in different sections of the State. In a rough way South Carolina might be divided into three zones, one including the lower third of the State or the coast counties; another the central third and the remainder the Piedmont section. In the lower zone, under normal boll weevil conditions a loss of about 75 per cent of the cotton crop may be expected. The loss in the central zone, under the same conditions would be about 50 per cent and in the Piedmont section at least 25 per cent. In unfavorable seasons such as those of high precipitation following mild winters the damage would be greater. Under such conditions even the Piedmont section might show a loss of 75 per cent of the cotton crop.

These conclusions are based on wide observations and on the opinion of men who have given their entire time to the study of the pest. Another thing, too, the loss will depend largely on the effort of the individual farmer. Cotton can be grown under boll weevil conditions with fairly good seasons. However, the farmers must get ready to tide over the lean years that are certain to follow the infestation in South Carolina.

J. P. Wade, commissioner of agriculture of the State of Alabama, has prepared the following statement concerning the situation in that State this year:

Invasion of Alabama.

The cotton boll weevil entered Alabama on the southwest corner about five years ago. About half of the area of the State had become infested by the end of the year 1914 during which 1,600,000 bales of cotton were produced. In 1915 a campaign for diversified farming was carried on Statewide. This naturally resulted in the reduction of acreage planted to cotton 15 to 20 per cent and a decrease in the use of commercial fertilizer of 50 per cent, notwithstanding 1,040,000 bales of cotton were produced in the State. On August 15, 1915, a severe gale played over the State, blowing from the southwest. This being the migrating period for the weevil and the wind being in the favorable direction, weevils were carried to all parts of the State and to several

counties in Georgia.

"In 1916 the acreage planted to cotton was increased over that of 1915 about 10 per cent. The use of commercial fertilizer was further decreased 15 per cent. A yield of 1,200,000 bales was expected under normal conditions. On July 5 a severe storm of wind and rain traversed the State from one end to the other, the trough of which was about the center of the State. This was followed by continuous heavy rains for about three weeks. This extremely unfavorable weather occurred just at the vital time of fruiting and at the time when wet weather would aid boll weevils most and render farmers most helpless in their fight against the weevil. As a result of the combined disaster, the State will make about 500,000 bales of cotton or about 41 per cent of a normal crop. The 59 per cent loss may be conservatively divided as follows: Twenty-five per cent due to boll weevil and 34 per cent due to unfavorable weather during the crisis of production. The boll weevil did much more than normal damage, as is always the case during wet summers.

"The boll weevil will surely come to South Carolina or any other place where cotton grows. It is only a question of a few years. Your farmer may be like all others and find many arguments as to why the weevils will not come. The Alabama farmers put up all these arguments. They would not take the facts from those who knew, but they have at last taken it from Mr. Boll Weevil himself and it is found that he devours all excuses as well as cotton.

Can Grow Some Cotton.

"We are still optimistic and believe from experience that by good farming on seasonable years we can continue to grow cotton profitably and are offering the following instructions:

"It will take a million bales of cotton per year to keep Alabama in normal financial condition. This amount can be grown in excess of the diversified crops sufficient to produce a living at home, and in spite of the boll weevil. Alabama farmers have seen the worst of it this year. With boll weevils all over the State as bad as they will ever be and the worst July weather ever known, conditions will improve as favorable seasons return. Help us to make a million bales of cotton next year and

KEEP A FAIR FACE

DURING

FAIR WEEK

NOVEMBER 20, 21, 22, 23, 24 and 25

Some one has said "A dime shave and a nickel shine have gotten many a man a good job.

That's Where We Come In.

Every barber in our shop is an expert who takes great care to give you the best service to be had anywhere.

Everything Strictly Sanitary.

In this shop, too, the razors are keen, the soaps are fine, the water hot or cold as you wish, and the towels clean. And enough barbers to prevent your having to wait very long for your turn.

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LATTA DAVIS' BARBER SHOP

Next Door to Lancaster Pharmacy.

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